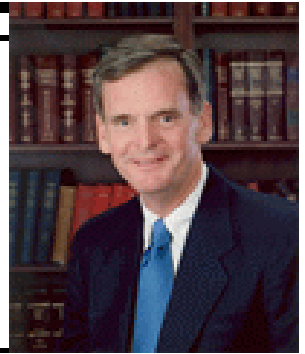

NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire
393 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 202-224-3324 www.senate.gov/~gregg/



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact: Erin Rath/Jeff Turcotte

MARGUERITE'S PLACE RECEIVES \$540,000 IN FEDERAL FUNDING

Award will continue and expand operations for four more years

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that Marguerite's Place in Nashua, a non-profit organization that offers safe, affordable, transitional housing for women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse, will soon be receiving \$540,000 to continue its mission for another four years. Marguerite's Place also provides access to affordable day care to its residents. Senator Gregg, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, was able to include this funding in the Fiscal Year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill that was signed into law late last month. Senator Gregg, who was able to secure \$600,000 in funding in 1999 to support Marguerite's Place from 1999-2003, joined Marguerite's Place CEO Sister Sharon Walsh and Chairman of the Board of Directors, John Parolin for a tour of recent renovations at Marguerite's Place last year.

Senator Gregg stated, "I have seen first-hand the tremendous humanitarian work being done at Marguerite's Place for women and children who need assistance getting their lives on track. The services it offers have made a significant difference in the lives of over two hundred women and their children to help them transition from difficult times to an environment of caring and understanding. I am pleased to help continue such an important organization that is making a tremendous difference in the lives of so many people."

Sister Sharon Walsh, CEO of Marguerite's Place, stated, "One of our beliefs at Marguerite's Place is that we truly believe in the power of a person to change. That empowerment can only be realized if we are given the support to make it happen. This money from the Congress through the efforts of Senator Gregg is a 'life saver' for us. When there is so much talk of war and destruction at this time, it is so hopeful to see money being used to inspire hope and life for so many people. We are indebted to Senator Gregg, not just for this funding but for all he has done and been for us for so many years."

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John Parolin, Chairman of the Board of Marguerite's Place, stated, "This appropriation secured through the effort of Senator Gregg will go a long way to help the staff and residents of Marguerite's Place work toward the shared goal of dignity and self-sufficiency for our residents. The Senator's support of our program has been both consistent and genuine. We thank him."

The shelter consists of ten apartments and an onsite daycare for up to 25 children. Women between the ages of 18 and 45 with children under the age of 12 may apply and may stay for up to two years, with the ability to work or go to school twenty hours per week as well as pay rent. Marguerite's Place also provides aftercare (including use of daycare) upon completion, for up to five years.

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